National Catholic Theatre Conference

PRODUCTION CALENDAR

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Rev. S. J. Draugelis

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OUR 1946 BULLETIN

If your copy has arrived you will agree that Father Schroeder, Bulletin Editor, has again earned our deepest thanks. His willingness to assume the harassing job of getting it to press in his meagre vacation between summer and fall terms has made this second annual possible. Combatting printer's delays, late copy, and the complexity of cuts and material, he has given us a magazine which reflects the energy and the talent devoting itself to Catholic theatre today. The Conference is grateful to him and to all who cooperated with him.

With the help of ads obtained by Paul Lilly and the sale of additional copies, the Bulletin has paid for itself, as the Executive Board required. We can look forward to future Bulletins as long as we have so apt and selfless an editor.

Bulk orders received from group members before Sept. 15 have been mailed (with the additional gratis copy) direct from Dubuque. Individual copies and small orders will be mailed from the Service Bureau as quickly as freight shipments reach us.

And if you wish to order additional copies (at 50¢ each to members), please send your order and check to the Service Bureau.

BISHOP SHEIL DRAMA AWARD 1946

The contest judges have unanimously agreed that Wallace Bacon's SAVONAROLA is the best of many scripts submitted in the play writing contest of 1946. His Excellency Bishop Sheil will present the $500 award to Mr. Bacon at the first performance of his play planned as a cooperative production in Chicago in the near future. In the historical verse-drama Emmet Lavery, Leo McCarey, and Gene Buck found "sustained drive, poetic power, emotional depth, fine dramatic construction and skillful writing."

Mr. Bacon, a native of Detroit, is Instructor in the Department of English Language and Literature at the University of Michigan. SAVONAROLA is the only one of his six plays yet unproduced.

Others too were found worthy of special applause, and Emmet Lavery has asked if "good reader's reports of the first five may not be supplied to members." These are being prepared now.

Coincidental with the announcement of the '46 Award winner is broadcast the good news that the Bishop Sheil Award is to be perpetuated, and the 1947 Contest is now open. Rules will remain the same as for 1946 except that the May 1 deadline shall be adhered to. There shall be no postponement, and playwrights are urged to set to work immediately.

316 West 57 Street, New York, 19 Circle 7-0236

Established 1937

COURTENAY SAVAGE

In the death of Courtenay Savage the Conference has lost an ardent supporter and its General Chairman of Publicity. Mr. Savage was stricken at Rome August 23 while at work on a radio script for a future series based on observation in occupied territories for War Relief Services, NCWC. A Solemn Funeral Mass, offered at Santa Susanna, was attended by representatives of the Papal Secretariate of State, Chaplains of the US Army, Religious Orders in Italy, and W.R.S.

His body was brought to New York where a Requiem Mass was offered at St. Malachy's Church Sept. 21, allowing Conference officials to pay their respects. On Sept. 23 a Solemn Funeral Mass was offered by His Eminence Samuel Cardinal Stritch at Cathedral of the Holy Name, Chicago. Burial was at Lincoln, Ill.

Mr. Savage has been responsible in recent years for the Bishops' War Emergency and Relief Committee radio programs, and much of his work during this time has been concerned with radio. He was Vice President of Radio Writers' Guild and in addition held membership in the Catholic Institute of the Press, Cathedral Guild of Catholic Actors of Chicago Dramatists' Guild, Authors' League of America, and Society of Authors and Playwrights (London). His most recent book, "Wayfarer's Friend," based on the life of St. Christopher, is to be published by Bruce this fall. Blackfriars' Guild, NY produced his play "Home Is the Hero" in 1944, and the play was seen by Catholic Theatre Guild of Pittsburgh's audiences last season.

Mr. Savage actively served the Conference since its founding. From 1943 to 1945 he was a member of the Executive Committee, placing his wide experience at the disposition of our organization, writing about it in periodicals. We shall miss his frequent visits to headquarters and his eager voice at conventions. Conference members are asked to remember him with gratitude in their prayers.

Bruce Publishing Company has released "Uncle Malachy and Uncle George," Father Nagle's talks last year over the Hour of Faith. Father Nagle returns to the Sunday program (11:30 am EST) during October with a new series. During September he spoke over The Angelus Hour from Stamford on "Mother Goose."

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL MEETING

On September 6 Sister Maria Ancilla invited to Saint Joseph College, West Hartford, directors and sponsors of Catholic theatre groups throughout New England. 100 responded by attending the dinner meeting and the well organized sessions the following day. The program reprinted below will point high lights; it can give you no adequate picture of the generous hospitality in exceptional surroundings or the keen relish with which delegates attended all gatherings.

September 6

4-6 Reception and Registration
6:15 Benediction
6:45 Dinner Meeting: Guest of Honor, His Excellency Most Rev. H. J. O'Brien Bishop of Hartford; Presiding Chairman, Rt.Rev.msgr.J.J.Hayes, Chancellor; Speakers: Helen Purcell, Paul Lilly, Rev.J.L.Bonn, S.J.

September 7

9 Projected Scenery: Chairman, Rev.F. J.Lescoe; Demonstration: Edward Rutyna, Blackfriars NY; Maurice De Sapio, Fordham; Father Lescoe and Samuel Preston, Queene's Companye.
10 Parish, Inter-Parish & Community Theatre: Chairman, Rev. Ralph Kelley, Chancel Players, New Haven; Speakers: Rev. D.Dunn, St.John's-St.Hugh's, Dorchester; Paul Lilly, Catholic Theatre of Detroit.
11 Radio: Chairman, Miss E.L.McElroy, Bridgeport; Speakers: Mother Margaret, O.S.U., Props and Paint, New Rochelle; Rev.L.Langguth, S.J., Radio Playshop, Fairfield.
12:30 Luncheon
1:30 Children's Theatre: Chairman, Paul Lilly; Speaker: Miss Dorothy Coit, King-Coit Children's Theatre, N.Y.

The most satisfying reward for the work involved continues to arrive in letters showing unanimous agreement in the "inspiration derived from seeing so many enthusiastic and intelligent people working together to improve standards." This month's Calendar insert, prepared by Ed Rutyna from his notes for the meeting, is a sample of the practical help given at Hartford.

Bishop O'Brien in his cordial greeting to the guests and his enthusiastic interest in the meeting earned the grateful thanks of clergy, religious and laity who see in theatre an important channel of Catholic Action.

CROSS COUNTRY CIRCUIT

Dayton - Blackfriars' Guild will present REBECCA the second week of October.
Detroit - Catholic Theatre of Detroit announces for its 7th Season: SHERLOCK HOLMES Oct 9--12; HIGH TOR Nov 6--9; THE IMAGINARY INVALID Dec 4--7; THE COMEDIAN Feb 5--8; Lenten Drama Mar 26--Apr 2; at the Art Institute. In May CTD will collaborate with Detroit Symphony in an out door production, MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM.
Dubuque - Loras College Players on their subscription series offer CYRANO, THE GLORY OF COLUMBIA, a new versification of OEDIPUS REX by Father Donohue, NOAH.
Los Angeles - THE SHORT CASE, an original out of local headlines dramatized by Rev. George Dunn,S.J., will open Los Angeles Theatre Unit's season.
New Rochelle - Props and Paint will produce ALICE SIT BY THE FIRE Oct 18; LATE GEORGE APLEY Dec 6; a play on ST. THOMAS MORE in Feb; CATHERINE THE VALIANT in early spring.
New York - Blackfriars' Guild opens its 57th Street season with DERRYOWEN, an Irish comedy, Oct 24 for 3 weeks run. Second production, Victoria Kuhn's MARK.

Fordham plans 6 productions - 4 in Collins, 2 in Penthouse. Tentatively: WINGS OVER EUROPE (Nov), PEER GYNT (Jan), Lenten Play (Mar), Musical Revue (May); Penthouse titles (Dec and Feb) not yet revealed. Also, a regular lunch hour presentation (1 runs a week) of a one-act play in the Workshop Theatre. Fordham's Dept of Theatre Arts will offer a major in Theatre Junior and Senior years. Mr. McCleery and several Summer Seminar instructors continue in Theatre Division. Rev. Richard Grady,S.J., will be in charge of Radio Divn., which also begins courses this fall. It is hoped that an FM station will be in operation on campus by January.
Racine - St.Catherine's High School for its first performance is inviting many friends to hear heads of production units explain their work in an entertaining and informative continuity THE SPOT'S ON JOHNNY, Oct 12--15. Also scheduled, THE TORCH BEARERS, Nov; THE SECRET GARDEN for Children's Theatre production Dec 7; QUEEN ESTHER for Lent; CYRANO for spring. 40 of St. Catherine's Players plan now to attend Detroit Convention.
Richmond - Catholic Theatre Guild launching its year's work with an Annual Retreat Sep 8 and elections Sep 10, announces continuation of weekly radio program (WRNL), Legion of Mary visitation to City institutions and hospitals, and Teen-Age Canteen. Two major stage productions, in addition to the Passion Play are called for.
Rochester - Holy Redeemer Parish Theatre presents ROOM SERVICE Oct 6--8.
St.Martin - Our Lady will have a large share of the dramatic year at School of Brown County Ursulines. Mary Layne is at work on choric adaptations of THE WOMAN WRAPPED IN SILENCE for Dec 8, Christmas and Lent.
Washington - A verse-drama year at CU: Auden and Isherwood's ASCENT OF F6 with Walter Kerr directing; an original, STATE OCCASION by Clinch Calkins to be directed by Allan Schneider; Mr. Kerr will also stage MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING; Leo Brady's original for the fourth; last, a musical comedy which Father Hartke will direct.

CHICAGO FESTIVALS

NCTC will sponsor two festivals in Chicago this season. The High School event is scheduled Nov 29, 30 and Dec 1. Mundelein College will be host to the colleges in the Central Region for a festival in February. Therese Marie Cuny, Regional Chairman, has called meetings of directors in both fields.

HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA CLINICS

177 high schools have been invited to send two delegates and a director to a 1-day Drama Clinic at Immaculata, Pa., sponsored by Cue and Curtain Players on Nov 9. Rev. Urban Nagle,O.P. will be guest speaker.

Roswitha Players of Nazareth College, Louisville, have also planned a day of demonstration, discussion and lecture for high schools in the area on Oct 26, following the suggestion made by National Thespian Society.

JESUIT MARTYRS

Rev. J. H. Kelly, S.J., Drama and Radio Director, Fairfield College Preparatory School, has sent us copies of his series of four radio scripts on the Jesuit Martyrs of North America and offers further information on production if members desire it. New England, at present, is well covered by scheduled broadcasts, but permission is given for production in areas not reached by these stations.

ROYALTY REDUCTIONS 1946-1947 SEASON

Group Members of NCTC are entitled to a special royalty reduction this season on the titles listed below. Please hold this list for reference all year. To obtain this membership dividend inform the Service Bureau: 1) the name of the play you wish to produce; 2) the date(s) of your performance(s). NCTC will certify to the publisher your eligibility for the reduction and the publisher will bill you at the lower rate. Royalties under this plan must be paid 30 days before performance. Please allow extra days for correspondence.

BAKER'S PLAYS

	List	NCTC rate
The Barretts	25	17.50
Enchanted Cottage	25	17.50
Lourdes	25	17.50

SAMUEL FRENCH

	List	NCTC 1st	NCTC 2d
Doctors Disagree	25	20	15
Harriet	50	35	25
Late Christopher Bean	25	20	15
Mrs. Moonlight	50	35	25
Murder in the Cathedral	35	25	20
Noah	25	20	15
One Sunday Afternoon	25	20	15
The First Year	25	20	15
Wednesday's Child	25	20	15

DRAMATISTS PLAY SERVICE

	List	1st	2d
Bell for Adano	50	35	25
Career Angel	25	20	
Cyrano de Bergerac	25	20	
Days without End	35	30	
Father Malchy's Miracle	35	20	
Ladies in Retirement	50	35	25

LONGMANS GREEN & CO.

	List	NCTC rate
Alice in Wonderland	25	20
Kamiano	25	20
Savonarola (Nagle)	15	12.50
Sun-Up	25	20
The Swan	25	20
Who Ride on White Horses	25	20

AVAILABLE THROUGH NCTC

Title	Author	Controlled by	List	NCTC rate
A Young American	Bronner	Author	25	20
Caukey	Rev. T. McGlynn,OP	Author	25	20
Come Marching Home	Robert Anderson	Liebling-Wood	25ea	25-20-15
Hanged Man Unhanged	Gheon/C. Musante	NCTC	15	10
Home Is the Hero	Courtenay Savage	NCTC	35	25
*Old Wang	Gheon/Sr.Constantia	NCTC	10	5
Simon's Wife	Rev. F.D.Alwaise,OP	Author	25	15
The Sultan's Daughter	Gheon/Sr.Constantia	NCTC	10	5
The Wranglers	Racine/Fr.Donohue	Adapter	25	20
*Treasure Island	Stevenson/Fr.Schroeder	Adapter	25	15

*: These plays have been printed; all others require your typing of cast copies

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Because of the scarcity of new plays from the publishers this season, the Conference is happy to make available through the library, with the permission of playwrights, several good entries in the Bishop Sheil contest of 1946. The royalty rate on these has not yet been established but information will be on record soon. KINDLY LIGHT, which was ranked second by the judges, is the all-male play produced by Cathedral College, Brooklyn, last spring; Rev. Charles Mulrooney received praise for a powerful idea and freshness of writing. OF HIS OWN HOUSE, a play concerning St. Thomas More by S. M. Paul, was given credit for "a nice ear for dialogue and character, good scholarship." CUP OF TREMBLING and PRELUDE TO FRANCE, by Vivian Johannes (Claire Leonard, Agent) - the former a sensitive study of Pontius Pilate, and the latter a play of young Joan of Arc. THE DAY STAR RISING, a choric drama dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary; IT IS NOT LAWFUL, a drama of St. John the Baptist by Rev. Nelson Logal; OF MIDNIGHT FANTASY, in which a parish priest fights delinquency with a parish play; CATHERINE OF ARAGON, Sister Mary Donatus's play which will be produced at Immaculata College this season; SONG AT SUNRISE, in which a convent in Latin America is dispersed by revolutionists; THE CORDUROY ROAD, with incidental music, showing a priest's successful efforts to obtain justice for lumberjacks.